

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This is a divisional application filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b). This application is a divisional application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/954,130 filed September 17, 2001. This application claims priority to U.S. Serial No. 09/954,130. This application pursues a species not elected in the parent case.

Claims 1-14, and 24-50 have been canceled. Claims 15, 20, 21, 22, and 23 have been amended. Claims 15-23 are active in the application.

Clarifying amendments have been made to the specification and claims.

Filed herewith is an INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT and form PTO-1449. The references listed on the Information Disclosure Statement have been previously submitted or cited during prosecution of the parent application and are not now submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

Filed herewith is a LETTER TRANSMITTING COPY OF OATH OR DECLARATION and a copy of the oath or declaration as originally filed in the parent application.

Applicant notes that the patent application having serial number 09/954,130 was assigned from Paracer, Inc., to Stratos Lightwave, Inc. Stratos Lightwave, Inc., is a non-small entity business concern.

Appl. No.  
Amdt. dated November 26, 2003

Preliminary Amendment, continued

The amendments are self-evident from the original disclosure. Therefore, it is believed that no new matter has been introduced.

Respectfully submitted,

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